



## Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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### Minutes – February 25, 2016

Chairman Gary McFarland called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Present were: Selectmen Bernie Johnson, Heather Fowler, Gary McFarland, Jo Cooper, Nathan Mason; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, Code Enforcement Officer Millard Billings, Assistant Code Enforcement Officer Rick Gallegos, Selectman candidates Bob Christie, Kathleen Rybarz; Comprehensive Planning Committee Member Kathie Gaianguet, Animal Control Officer Shannon Byers, Carol Korty, Jill Ladebauche, and Town Attorney Diane O'Connell

**Agenda Review** – No changes were proposed to the printed agenda or addendum.

**Minutes, February 11, 2016** – Bernie moved to approve the minutes as written. Nathan 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Expenditure Warrant 19** – Selectmen signed the warrant in the amount of \$127,691.13. Stu noted more than \$110,000 was for school expenses.

**Cash & Budget Report** – Stu noted that cash flow was very good as property taxes are due on Monday.

**Foreclosed Property** – Stu reported he had been in contact with the prior owner of Map 14 Lot1 who has sent a \$500.00 check. He said there is a little over \$600 due, and when that is received, a quitclaim deed will be prepared.

**Boiler – Fire Station** – Stu reported Osborne's Plumbing & Heating has made a series of repairs to the fire station boiler and it seems to be working properly again.

**Public Hearing – Donation Review Ordinance** – Gary opened the hearing at 7:07 PM, and read the warrant article as follows: "To see if the town wishes to amend Section VI A. of the Ordinance regarding Town Meeting Donation Requests as follows: ~~Organizations shall be limited to a maximum of \$600 in any town fiscal year~~ Organization requests shall be limited to a maximum of \$700 in any town fiscal year, and the Board of Selectmen and/or Budget Committee may only recommend up to that maximum amount on the Town Meeting Warrant."

Carol Korty said the maximum level had been \$600 for many years, and the groups that are funded are the ones the town wishes to support. She said she advocates taking the step to increase the maximum level to \$700. Jo said the idea came from the Budget Committee. She said having an ordinance keeps the town meeting efficient. She said it would likely to start to fall apart without the amendment. She said it's a symbolic amount, but nevertheless a good idea.

Jill Ladebauche asked about the amounts from past recommendations and whether the amounts were listed. Gary said they were. There being no further comment or question, the hearing closed at 7:10 PM.

**Inquiry from Karen Hood, re: property survey** – Gary said the Selectmen received a copy of a letter from Mrs. Hood to Stu making some sort of inquiry about town owned property and a survey on her property, and a possible claim that the town may not own the land lasted at Map 1 Lot 52. He said Mrs. Hood and her sister own Map 1 Lot 46. He said the town does not dispute what it owns. Nathan said he wasn't sure how the two lots tie together, noting the tax maps show two lots in between them. After a brief discussion, Heather moved to sign a letter that had been drafted to Mrs. Hood. Bernie 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**MSW Transportation Contract** – Stu reported Pine Tree Waste has agreed to a 4% increase in the contract until March, 2018 as requested by the town. He said he replied back, asking whether Pine Tree wished to draft up a contract, or have the town do it.

**PERC/MRC Future** – Stu reported that Ken Smith has done a huge job reviewing documents proposed by MRC for the Fiberight contract. He said he's asked Mr. Smith for a one page summary if possible, and that would likely be forthcoming. Stu noted that so far Brewer, Bar Harbor and Hampden have opted to stay with the MRC and send trash to Fiberight, and Bangor will decide on Monday.

Bernie said a town meeting would have to approve of whatever proposal is chosen by Selectmen. It was noted that the MRC wanted a decision prior to May 1.

**Spirit of America Award** – Stu said he printed off some information from the organization which the Selectmen had requested last meeting. After reviewing what the program was, the Board took no action.

**Emera Request to Operate on Posted Roads** – Gary noted this is an annual request. Heather asked why the roads are even posted, and there was a very brief discussion. Nathan moved to sign the request. Gary 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Resignation – Comprehensive Planning Committee** – Jo said she was disappointed to hear that Bonnie Marckoon wished to step down from the committee after the upcoming public meeting. Nathan asked who the alternate members are. Stu said the suggestion was that Andrea Ames be moved to the full voting slot, but the Comprehensive Planning Committee should be the one to make the suggestion to the Selectmen. Heather moved to accept the resignation. Bernie reluctantly 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

**Electronic Waste Collection** – Stu reported Electronics End wished to hold another E-Waste collection in Lamoine on June 25, 2016. There was no objection from the Selectmen. Stu noted that he would inquire about volunteers to help out with the Conservation Commission.

**Possible Candidates' Forum** – Jo said she raised the idea of sponsoring a forum for the upcoming election and was surprised that it had become a political “hot potato”. She said the school PATRONS group had held it up until a few years ago; it started before there was a CTV channel. She noted that it has faded away because the PATRONS group has changed a lot, and that it's too bad there it's not happening now. She said the Ellsworth American does usually do an article. Stu noted there was a large article in today's paper. Bernie asked the other candidates what they thought of the article.

Jo continued that it's a minority of the people who vote, and her only intent was to offer information in the form of a forum. She said she didn't think of it soon enough. She said there was no intent for it to become political in nature. She asked if there could be something, and she would appreciate getting to know candidates better.

Carol Korty said she sent an e-mail to the PATRONS chair, and got no response. She said when she spotted this on the Selectmen's agenda it was a pretty tight schedule available. There was discussion of a moderator and whether to hold it at the town hall or at the school. Heather noted it would have to be held next week. Bernie said he did not respond to Jo's e-mail. He said he did respond to an e-mail from Ms. Korty, and that he was not stepping into that. Ms. Korty said she preferred that the PATRONS or the Selectmen sponsor a forum. A brief discussion followed.

Bernie noted that no one has discussed the “G” word (gravel) and he feared that campaigning on it could jeopardize the lawsuit currently filed against the town. A brief discussion followed. Bob Christie said a dialogue with the community would be helpful.

Ms. Ladebauche asked about the history of candidate forums and asked if the town was avoiding it because of the gravel issue. Jo said no, the school has played a critical role in the past, and a brief discussion of past candidate forums followed. Kathie Gaianguet said she was chagrined that there has been no candidate forum the past two elections. She said it's part of our democracy. She said should the Selectmen decide to hold one, attendance would be down because it would be very last minute. She said having a forum at the town office would be best, because it could be telecast on the Cable TV channel. A brief discussion followed on the history of candidate's forums.

Nathan said he did not think it was the Selectboard's place to sponsor a forum. . Ms. Korty asked what if we had a “no gravel” discussion stipulation, but could talk about other things. Stu asked who “we” was. Jo said she would offer to coordinate it, and Stu could help. Nathan said he just saw the e-mail chain from Ms. Korty and something like that needs to be set up well in advance, and he's not available next week. Ms. Gaianguet said she would still favor some sort of get together and have a broadcast forum. Candidate Kathleen Rybarz said it didn't have to be a forum where everyone is all together. A brief discussion followed about possible formats.

Gary asked if the Selectboard wished to sponsor a candidate's forum, and if so, when. Heather said no, there is no time. Jo moved to allow the board to let her try, and it would be completely neutral. Board members said she did not need their permission to run it

on her own. Jo said she doubted it would happen. Bernie said the only night he was available next week was on Tuesday.

**Next Meeting Dates** – Gary read off the next meeting dates, including town meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, with an organizational meeting and action on emergent items on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Executive Session** – Nathan moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1MRSA §405(6)(a) and (e) for the purposes of discussing a personnel matter and consulting with the town attorney on a legal matter. Heather 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Vote in favor was 5-0 at 7:45 PM. Out at 8:47.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst. to the Selectmen